

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A method in a data processing system for generating return data responsive to a database request, the method comprising:

detecting a response from a data store after the database request specifying a requested field is executed, wherein a requesting client does not have knowledge of a database structure for the data store;

responsive to detecting the response, locating a merge reference section in a singleton in-memory object;

identifying a merge reference from the merge reference section;

determining a reference column from the merge reference;

merging the requested field [[data]] with the reference column to form a merged value according to an order, wherein the merged value includes multiple columns from the data store in response to the database request specifying the requested field; and

placing the merged value in the response.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein detecting a response from the data store includes receiving a result from an adapter after execution of a query statement.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the singleton in-memory object is implemented as a configuration Java bean.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein identifying a merge reference from the merge reference section includes determining whether an identifier of the merge reference matches [[a]] the requested field from a plurality of requested fields in the response.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4, wherein merging the requested field [[data]] with the reference column to form the merged value according to the order includes combining a value of the requested field with a value of the reference column.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein determining a reference column from the merge reference includes locating the reference column from a plurality of columns in the data store according to a value element of the merge reference.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the order is located in an order element of the merge reference.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the merge reference section includes a plurality of merge references.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the response is a message formatted using an extensible markup language.

10. (Currently Amended) A method in a data processing system for executing a request on a data store, the method comprising:

receiving [[a]] the request from a client containing data, wherein the client does not have knowledge of a database structure for the data store;

responsive to receiving the request, locating a split reference section in a singleton in-memory object;

identifying a split reference from the split reference section;

determining a reference column from the split reference;

extracting a value from the data, wherein the data is split into multiple columns of the data store;

and

placing the value in the reference column according to an order.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the singleton in-memory object is implemented as a configuration Java bean.

12. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the split reference section includes a plurality of split references.

13. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein identifying the split reference includes determining whether an identifier of the split reference matches a requested field from a plurality of requested fields in the request.

14. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein determining the reference column includes locating the column from a plurality of columns in the data store according to a value element of the split reference.

15. (Currently Amended) A method in a data processing system for executing a request on a data store, the method comprising:

receiving a request containing data;

responsive to receiving the request, locating a split reference section in a singleton in-memory object;

identifying a split reference from the split reference section;

determining a reference column from the split reference;

extracting a value from the data ~~The method of claim 10, wherein extracting a value includes determining whether a split length element exists; and~~

placing the value in the reference column according to an order.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein, responsive to determining the split length element exists, the value includes a number of characters of the data specified in the split length element.

17. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein, responsive to determining the split length element does not exist, the value includes a number of characters of the data remaining.

18. (Currently Amended) A method in a data processing system for executing a request on a data store, the method comprising:

receiving a request containing data;

responsive to receiving the request, locating a split reference section in a singleton in-memory object;

identifying a split reference from the split reference section;

determining a reference column from the split reference;

extracting a value from the data; and

placing the value in the reference column according to an order ~~The method of claim 10, wherein the order is located in an order element of the split reference.~~

19. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the request is an extensible markup language request message.

20. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein determining a reference column further comprises determining a plurality of reference columns, and extracting the value further comprises extracting a plurality of values, wherein a first value of the plurality of values is placed in a first column of the plurality of columns, and a second value of the plurality of values is placed in a second column of the plurality of columns.

21. (Currently Amended) A computer program product in a computer readable medium for performing actions on a data store, the computer program product comprising:

first instructions for detecting a response from a data store after a database request specifying a requested field is executed, wherein a requesting client does not have knowledge of a database structure for the data store;

second instructions, responsive to detecting the response, for determining a reference column of a merge reference of a merge reference section of a singleton in-memory object; and

third instructions for generating a response having a merged value obtained from merging the requested field [[data]] with the reference column, wherein the merged value includes multiple columns from the data store in response to the database request specifying the requested field.

22. (Original) The computer program product of claim 21, wherein the singleton in-memory object is a Java bean.

23. (Currently Amended) A computer program product in a computer readable medium for executing a request on a data store, the computer program product comprising:

first instructions for receiving a request from a client containing data, wherein the client does not have knowledge of a database structure for the data store;

second instructions that locate a split reference section in a singleton in-memory object;

third instructions for determining a reference column of a split reference in the split reference section; and

fourth instructions that extract a value from the data and place the extracted value in the reference column, wherein the data is split into multiple columns of the data store.

24. (Original) The computer program product of claim 23, wherein the singleton in-memory object is a Java bean.